IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Boardman et al.

Art Unit: 3641

Serial No.: 09/735,009

Examiner: R. Palabrica

Filed: December 12, 2000

For:

SYSTEM AND METHODS OF

PRODUCING HYDROGEN USING A

NUCLEAR REACTOR

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. § 1.118

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and entry of the following amendment submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 22, 2003, and made final.

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (four times amended)

A system for generating hydrogen comprising:

feed water;

a liquid metal nuclear reactor having a non-radioactive secondary heat loop comprising a recirculated heat transfer medium;

a steam generator connected to said secondary heat loop, said heat transfer medium and said feed water passing through said steam generator, said steam generator capable of raising the temperature of said feed water;

a high temperature water cracking system, said feed water coupled to said water cracking system by a feed water input line, said secondary heat loop and said recirculated heat transfer medium being separate from said high temperature water cracking system; and